Vangrams in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh

†5166. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of "Vangrams" in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh, zone-wise; and the proposal for number of Vangrams to be converted into Revenue villages sent to Government by the State Government;

(b) the reasons mentioned by the State Government for converting Vangrams into Revenue villages;

(c) whether people living in the forests are going to be benefited by the same; and

(d) if so, the details of the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) As per the information available, there are 425 forest villages in Chhattisgarh and 921 forest villages in Madhya Pradesh. The Chhattisgarh Government has submitted 19 proposals for conversion of 421 forest villages into revenue villages whereas the Madhya Pradesh Government has submitted 11 such proposals in respect of 316 forest villages.

(b) The State Governments have mentioned that forest villagers will get land ownership rights as well as all other rights enjoyed by revenue villagers and it will result in their social and economic improvement.

(c) Once the forest villages are converted into revenue villages, the developmental funds for Rural Development would start flowing in and would lead to economic upliftment of the people.

(d) The Central Government have issued detailed guidelines on 18.9.1990 for conversion of forest villages into revenue villages under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Approval to Musi River Pollution Abatement Project

5167. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have accorded approval to the Musi River Pollution Abatement Project under the National River Conservation Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost of the project together with funding pattern;

(d) the implementing and monitoring agency of the project; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.